THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The ordinances of most of the Central Universities provide for reservation for SC/ST candidates in the matter of appointment at the level of lecturers. As regards the IITs, the posts are categorised as Academic, Technical, Administrative and others. In the Academic categories in the IITs, reservation for SC/ST candidates is provided in the posts of Scientific Officer (Grade-II), Research Engineer (Grade-II), System Programmer (Grade-II) and Assistant Workshop Suprintendent. As regards teaching posts in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas, reservation for SC/ST candidates is available.

(c) The IITs have reservation for SC/ST candidates at the lowest levels of academic categories of posts.

**Audit Paras**

688. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'audit paras' received from the Comptroller and Auditor General of India pertaining to the office of the Chief Administrative Officer and Joint Secretary (Ministry of Defence) in the last three years including 1997 so far;

(b) the details of the 'audit paras'; and

(c) the action taken on each of the 'audit paras'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Nil

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Redressal of Complaints of War Victims**

689. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news item published in 'Dainik Jagran' on May 12, 1997 wherein it is stated that the Indian laws pertaining to the redressal of complaints of war victims are not adequate and there is need to amend them as per International Human Rights Law;

(b) if so, the details of shortcomings in these laws;

(c) the details of suggestion given for making improvement in them; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Present arrangements for redressal of grievances are considered satisfactory. There is no proposal at present to make any changes.

**Karimganj Steamer Station**

690. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Karimganj Steamer Station in Karimganj District, Assam has been augmented by his Ministry spending lakhs of Rupees but it remains idle because of non-functioning of water route by River Kushiara through Bangladesh; and

(b) whether the Government propose to have an agreement with Bangladesh so that small ships with cargos could ply by River Kushiara through Bangladesh to the great benefit of the people of North-East Region?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The river route between Calcutta & Karimganj through Bangladesh remains operative during May to October every year and is closed for rest of the year due to non-availability of adequate draft.

(b) Under the existing Protocol on Inland Water Transit & Trade with Bangladesh, there is a provision for movement of CIWTC vessels from Calcutta to Karimganj *via* Bangladesh through Kushiara river.

**Allocation of Amount for Promotion of Tourism**

691. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :
SHRI R.B. RAI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated by the Union Government for the development of Tourism in the country during Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the quantum of amount spent by the Government of Kerala out of the sanctioned amount during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) The Department of Tourism provides Central Financial